County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department

Division: Emergency Medical Services Agency

Effective Date: 01/01/2025

Protocol #661

TRAUMATIC CARDIAC ARREST		
	ADULT	PEDIATRIC (≤34KG)
BLS		
•	Universal Protocol #601	Same as Adult
•	Obvious Death – see Prehospital	
	Determination of Death Policy #125	
•	Follow HPCPR guidelines for CPR (10:1) and	
	minimize interruptions (< 5 seconds)	
	BLS Op	tional
		per Airway Management Protocol #602
ALS Standing Orders		
Tra	numa patients who arrest after EMS arrival on	Same as Adult (except as noted below)
	scene and < 20 min from trauma center	
		 Normal Saline 20 mL/kg IV/IO – reassess and
•	Do not delay transport	repeat
•	Perform ALS treatments en route	
•	Normal Saline up to 500 mL – repeat x1 if no	
	ROSC or SBP of < 90 mmHg	
•	Do not use Epinephrine or Amiodarone	
	unless the arrest is suspected to be of medical origin	
•	Resuscitate and treat for reversible causes,	
•	i.e. hypoxia, hypovolemia, tension	
	pneumothorax	
•	Traumatic arrest with the suspicion of chest	
	trauma, perform bilateral needle	
	thoracostomy. See Needle Thoracostomy	
	Procedure #705.	
	Traumatic arrest <u>with absent</u> signs of life	
	on EMS arrival	
_	With abcost signs of life consider you	
•	With absent signs of life consider non- initiation – Prehospital Determination of	
	Death Policy #125	
	Base Hospital	Orders Only
•	Trauma patients who arrest after EMS arrival	Same as Adult
•	on scene and > 20 min from trauma center or	Sume ds Addit
	hospital	
	 Contact SLO Trauma Center for 	
	treatment and/or destination	
•	Termination of resuscitation	
•	As needed	
	Not	tes

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- Absent signs of life assessment include: pulseless, apneic, lack of heart and lung sounds, fixed and dilated pupils.
- Trauma Center is the preferred destination if equal or near equal distance.
- Do not delay transport for advanced airway or other treatment modalities.
- Consider medical origin in older patients with low probable mechanism of injury.
- Unsafe scene or other circumstances may warrant transport despite low potential for survival.
- Minimize disturbance of potential crime scene.
- Consider Oral Intubation or Supraglottic Airways (Adults), provider discretion.
- If the provider cannot accomplish an ALS airway, they should document in the PCR why an ALS airway wasn't accomplished.